

Denmark signed the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM), which is a non-legally binding framework with a view to strengthen international cooperation to improve migration

capacity building for better migration management and addressing drivers of irregular migration at the global level.

The fulfilment of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is highly relevant for achieving the objectives of GCM. In 2021, Denmark launched a new strategy for development cooperation "The World We Share", where one of the main priorities is to address fragility, conflict, displacement and irregular migration. The strategy is guided by the SDG's and based on a human rights approach as well as democratic values.

Denmark has in accordance with GCM objective 21 (Cooperate in facilitating safe and dignified return and readmission, as well as sustainable reintegration) fostered institutional contacts with relevant officials from countries of origin and destination by appointing an Ambassador for Irregular Migration, Return and Readmission with responsibility for supporting return and readmission along with a Special Envoy on Migration Issues as well as three regional migration counsellors strategically posted at Danish embassies in select regions. The goal is to maintain and improve bilateral relations, assist in specific readmissions, and identify opportunities for enhancing reintegration opportunities in countries of origin as well as funding capacity building efforts in support of countries of origin and transit towards improved migration management. Denmark has furthermore been a member of the European Return and Reintegration Network (ERRIN) since June 2016 via an associated partnership agreement. In countries without activities by ERRIN, Denmark has entered into agreement with the European Reintegration Support Organizations' network to provide sustainable reintegration support via local partners.

In accordance with Objective 2, (Minimize the adverse drivers and structural factors that compel people to leave their country of origin), Denmark is a major provider of international development assistance and humanitarian aid and one out of only five countries that fulfil the target of providing 0.7 pct. of GNI as development assistance. Denmark works with a human rights-based approach to development cooperation and has a strong focus on gender equality.

To better achieve Danish priorities regarding asylum and migration an Inter-ministerial Migration Task Force has been established to promote new solutions that can change the incentive structures behind present and future irregular migration flows, including the transfer of asylum seekers to a partner country outside the EU within Denmark's international obligations and developing capacities in third countries along the migratory routes to secure better management of mixed/irregular migration movements. The activities of the Migration Task Force will i.e. contribute to the implementation of the Objectives 2, 4, 9, 10, 11 and 21.

It is of particular Danish priority to improve management of irregular migration, including strengthened border control, combatting human smuggling and trafficking, cooperation on return and readmission, addressing drivers of irregular migration, and enhancing international and regional cooperation on migration. Denmark contributes to IOM and UNODC efforts to combat human trafficking and smuggling of persons as part of the transnational response to smuggling of migrants and efforts to prevent, combat and eradicate trafficking in persons in line with Objectives 9 and 10. Moreover, Denmark has contributed to OHCHR projects on strengthening human rights fulfilment in migration management and border control in the Middle East and North Africa region and the promotion of a human rights based approach to climate related migration challenges in the Sahel in line with Objectives 7 and 11. Denmark is also actively supporting IOM in a number of countries in Africa, Asia and the Balkans with a focus on migration management and capacity building of migration authorities. Support is also being

provided to the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD) in areas such as border management and migration data management.

Denmark would like to see a stronger focus on addressing irregular migration and border management in full respect of human rights, including developing the capacity of asylum and migration authorities in countries of origin and along migratory routes, and on supporting States in the implementation of Objective 21 on return and readmission. Denmark will continue to seek the effectiveness of return and readmission of third country nationals without legal stay through diplomatic consultations and bilateral cooperation. In order to ensure sustainable return and reintegration, Denmark will continuously establish and join reintegration programs through regional and bilateral arrangements with relevant NGOs, IGOs or other countries